(c) if so, by what time the FIPB is likely to clear these projects; and

(d) the reasons for the delay?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The revamped Foreign Investment Promotion Board in its meetings is already considering foreign investment proposals and making apropriate recommendations on such proposals.

(c) and (d) Receipt of applications for consideration of FIPB and their disposal is a continuous process. The proposals are generally cleared within a period of 6 weeks.

World Bank loan for expansion of CIL projects in Madhya Pradesh

3337. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that World Bank has provided loan to CIL for expansion projects and replacement of heavy earth moving machinery in existing coal mines/projects in the State of Madhya Pradesh;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the projects have been identified for expansion in the State with the help of World Bank loan; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRIMATI KANTI SINGH): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d) Coal India Ltd. (CIL), have proposed a loan from the World Bank for a project entitled "Coal Sector Rehabilitation Project". The project *inter-alia* proposes to seek funds for heavy earth moving machinery etc. for expansion of mines in Madhya Pradesh.

Removal of infrastructural bottlenecks

3338. SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL: SHRI SATISH AGARWAL:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government plan to remove infrastructural bottlenecks for exports to achieve exports worth US $100 billion by the end of the Ninth Plan period as reported in the Indian Express, New Delhi dated 14th August, 1996;

(b) the suggestions/decisions taken at the 16th Board of Trade meeting held recently in New Delhi to achieve a minimum export growth of 25 per cent by India, annually; and

(c) whether Government have till date taken any decision at the said meeting on FICCI's suggestions for greater financial support for export sectors such as gems and jewellery and textiles which are not constrained by infrastructural bottlenecks?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI BOLLA BULLI RAMAIAH): (a) to (c) Government is engaged in the continuous upgradation of export infrastructure. The Ministry of Commerce acts in co-ordination with the other Ministries, Departments and agencies for the purpose. Standing Committees on Promotion of Exports (SCOPE) in respect of air cargo (SCOPE-AIR) and sea borne cargo (SCOPE-SHIPPING) are functioning in the Ministry. These help to resolve constraints encountered in export transportation and to advise on long term strengthening of infrastructure. The Ministry of Surface Transport is upgrading the port infrastructure. Inland Container Depots (ICDs) and Container Freight Stations (CFSs) are being established in various parts of the country to facilitate container transportation of goods and intermodal conveyance. An Inter-Ministrial Committee accords